#13BW 3-6.01

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Kazumasa AYUKAWA et al.

Group Art Unit: 3682

Appln. No.: 09/961,365

Examiner: M. CHARLES

Filed

: September 25, 2001

For

: THIN AUTOTENSIONER

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111** 

RECEIVED
FEB 2 4 2004

Commissioner For Patents Alexandria, Virginia 22313 **GROUP 360**0

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of December 2, 2003, which set a three-month shortened statutory period to expire on March 2, 2004, Applicants submit the amendments and remarks as follows for entry in the above-identified patent application and request reconsideration of the rejections and allowance of the application, in due course:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper.



## BLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C. ntellectual Property Causes 1950 Roland Clarke Place Reston, VA 20191 (703) 716-1191



3682

In re application of

Kazumasa AYUKAWA et al.

Attorney Docket No. P21475

Mail Stop Non-Fee

Serial No.

09/961,365

Group Art Unit: 3682

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COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

FEB 2 4 2004

**GROUP 3600** 

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an Amendment under 37 C.F.R. 1.111 in the above-captioned application.

Small Entity Status of this application under 37 C.F.R. 1.9 and 1.27 has been established by a previously filed statement.

A verified statement to establish small entity status under 37 C.F.R. 1.9 and 1.27 is enclosed.

A Request for Extension of Time.

X No Additional Fee.

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

Claims After Amendment	No. Claims Previously Paid For	Present Extra	Small Entity		Other Than A Small Entity	
			Rate	Fee	Rate	Fee
Total Claims: 20	* 20	0	x 9=	\$	x 18=	\$0.00
Indep. Claims: 6	**6	0	x 43=	\$	x 86=	\$0.00
Multiple Dependent Claims Presented			145=	\$	+290=	\$0.00
Extension Fees for Month				\$		\$0.00
			Total:	\$	Total:	\$0.00

<sup>\*</sup>If less than 20, write 20

Please charge my Deposit Account No. 19-0089 in the amount of \$\_

N/A A Check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to cover the filing /extension fee is included.

X The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

X Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16.

X Any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.17, including any required extension of time fees in any concurrent or future reply requiring a petition for extension of time for its timely submission (37 CFR 1.136)(a)(3).

Reg No. 29,027

<sup>\*\*</sup>If less than 3, write 3